

Black Caucus, to revise the strict requirements the Department of Education placed on those attempting to obtain or continue to use their Parent Plus Loans to further their college education. The excessive requirements were eventually revised in ways which allowed hundreds of thousands of previously adversely affected students, many at HBCU's in particular, to continue their studies.

Yet I do not intend to abandon the fight for justice and equality that I have fought for all of my life. Even outside the halls of Congress, I will continue to advocate for minorities, for the less fortunate, and for those born on the "other side of the railroad tracks." As I have said from the day I was first elected: "to whom God has given much, much is expected . . . when you are born you get a birth certificate, and when you die you get a death certificate, but it's the dash in between that really matters."

HONORING CAPTAIN MELISSE
LEITZKE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Melisse Leitzke, whom I have named a 2016 Public Safety Hero of the Year for Solano County in California's 5th Congressional District. This award is given to exceptional members of our community who perform beyond their duty as a public servant.

Captain Leitzke is known for her leadership, knowledge and mentorship at the Vallejo Fire Department. Her dedication to excellence shows through the results of her hard work and study to achieve the rank of Captain after placing first in her recent Captain examination.

In addition to her work as an emergency responder, Captain Leitzke is an active member of our community. She serves as a mentor in the Department's Robin Mackbee Youth Academy providing life guidance and career exploration for youth who are at-risk socially, academically and economically. Captain Leitzke's presence in the academy provides a positive role model for the young men and women.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Captain Leitzke for her dedication to our community's safety. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that I honor her here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF STANFORD SET-
TLEMENT NEIGHBORHOOD CEN-
TER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 80th anniversary of the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center and the Sisters of Social Service in Sacramento. As Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center's friends and supporters gather to celebrate this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their leadership in the Sacramento region.

It is a great pleasure to recognize the center's dedication to providing services that benefit the health and well-being of the residents and neighborhood. As Sacramento's oldest social-service agency, Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center has provided services to thousands of people, young and old. Their wide range of programs includes Neighborhood Outreach, Emergency Assistance, Children's, and Senior Services programs. On top of this, the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center actively works to foster stronger connections within the community by hosting meetings with city officials and other local organizations.

80 years ago, the former residence of Governor Leland Stanford was taken over by The Sisters of Social Service. The Sisters began several programs to serve their neighbors immediately and in 1963 they moved their programs to the Gardenland Northgate area of Northern Sacramento. Their work was instrumental in obtaining City water, parks, street lights, sidewalks and gutters for the area. In 1975, the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center became a non-profit and moved to the abandoned Gardenland Elementary School. At this location, the facility grew to include both the Sister Jeanne Felion Senior Center and the Carl R. Hansen Teen Center.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center, and their continuous commitment to providing social services to all people, young and old. The past 80 years have been tremendously successful and I am sure they will continue to enjoy success in the future. While Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center's staff, supporters, and friends gather together to celebrate the organization's 80th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their outstanding work in providing the community with much needed social services.

TRIBUTE TO BAKARY CAMARA

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to honor Mr. Bakary Camara for his many years of selfless and compassionate service to the African community, and all of our community's residents.

Mr. Bakary Camara was born in Gambia, West Africa, in 1961. He and his family managed an independent business and he traveled throughout Africa and Europe before settling in the Bronx in 1988.

Bakary joined the majority of the West African immigrants that were settling in the Highbridge, Mount Eden, Concourse, and Morrisania sections of the Bronx. At that time, there was no Masjid in the Bronx and the Muslim community would gather in each other's apartments to pray. Bakary and other community leaders founded one of the first Mosques for the African community at 1472 Jesup Avenue, Masjid Deyau of Islam.

In the 1990s, Bakary joined other Gambian leaders in helping strengthen the Gambian Society, the first African organization to provide adult education services and worked with the CDC to educate the African community in the Bronx about their health and specifically about the growing problem of AIDS and HIV.

Bakary helped open other Mosques throughout the Bronx, serves as Secretary for Makky Masjid and is the Public Relations Representative for Makky Masjid and for the Islamic Cultural Center, the central mosque for the Bronx which opened in 1999.

Bakary has volunteered and served as a representative for numerous nonprofits throughout the Bronx, including the Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition, the United Parents of Highbridge and the Parent Action Committee of New Settlement Apartments. Bakary served on the steering committee for the citywide Muslim Holiday Campaign, a coalition which worked for nearly a decade to have the two Muslim holidays, the Eids, recognized by the New York Public School System. This was achieved in 2015 under Mayor Bill DeBlasio.

Bakary also has volunteered as a community translator for Lincoln, Harlem, and New York Presbyterian Hospitals. He speaks Sonike, Manidiko, Fulani, and Walof. Bakary continues to reside with his family on Plimpton Avenue in the Highbridge neighborhood of the Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Bakary Camara for his consistently remarkable dedication to public service.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
MR. JOHN MCKEOWN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life of one of Laredo's most caring and dedicated citizens, Mr. John McKeown.

Mr. McKeown was born on February 4th, 1929, in Tulsa, Oklahoma to John Mayo McKeown and Mary Grace McVey McKeown. He attended Cascia Hall Preparatory School in Tulsa and eventually went to the U.S. Naval Academy where he graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering. At the age of 24, Mr. McKeown entered the Korean War where he served on a transport ship and a destroyer. For his service he received the National Defense Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, and the China Service Medal. After the war, he moved to Texas to work for a maquiladora that manufactured electronics. It was during this time that he met his beloved wife Jeanette. They soon got married and eventually had two children. Mr. McKeown also went on to start a successful business called McKeown Customs Brokers Inc. which saw over forty years of success.

Mr. McKeown was very involved in his local community. He not only helped start one of Laredo's first youth soccer teams but helped referee Saturdays and Sundays. He was also an active member of the Laredo Licensed U.S. Customs Brokers Association, Laredo Noon Rotary Club, St. Patrick Men's Club, and was past president of the Laredo Animal Protective Society. Mr. McKeown, however, was most noted for his work with helping local veterans. As an active member of the Laredo Korean War Veterans Association and chaplain of the Laredo 1959 chapter, Mr. McKeown was considered one of the first people veterans could